

Quote

THE WEEKLY DIGEST

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Number 12

WITHIN THE WEEK

The wk has brought witness to a revolutionary technique in aerial warfare—the complete leveling of a sizeable city in a few hours.

How many Germans were in Cassino—and how few survived—is not now known. But presumably our forces can now begin their march upon the Italian capital. Whether, as some optimists forecast, Allied forces will celebrate Easter Sunday (April 9) in Rome is a question time will very soon answer.

ITALY—Gov't: We shall not be surprised to see the Allied occupation of Rome signalize some important changes in the Italian gov't. Certainly it is no secret that the King and Badoglio have not unified the country. (The fact that they, apparently, were not consulted in the recent move to partition the Italian navy is a tip-off of waning influence. That move, by the way, to apportion certain Italian naval units to Russia, is not dead. Look for action when Russia moves deeper into Balkans and Black Sea is indisputably open to Allied vessels.) Some competent observers of Italian scene believe that Count Grandi (now in Lisbon) is soon to ret'n to Rome and that he may be asked to form a new gov't.

RUMANIA: This is open season for peace rumors. Don't become overly excited by headlines. Grant-

ing Prince Barnu Stirbe may sincerely seek peace, he has nothing to surrender. He is an ex-Premier, last reported in Turkey. Before he could turn Rumania to Allies, he and his leftist associates would have to wrest control from Premier Dobri Bojilov. Assuming such an overthrow, there is the further point that Germans are not counting on Rumanian arms to defend this strategic territory. The third point in the Stirbe "offer" (as reported in *London Daily Express*) is the pay-off: "German forces to be invited to withdraw from Rumania and to be ejected forcibly if they refuse." It is safe to assume that Germans will not accept such an "invitation" and their "ejection" will become, presently, a primary objective of Allied forces. There is no territory in Europe (excluding perhaps the Reich itself) that Germany will fight more doggedly to retain. Access to Rumanian oil is essential to her continued resistance.

SOLDIER VOTE: The bill passed by Congress this wk is a hodge-podge, satisfactory to no one. Considering the substantial majority in the House (273 to 111) a Presidential veto is hardly to be expected. If the veto is over-ridden Mr Roosevelt's prestige would be further impaired; if sustained, the net result, at this late date, would probably be no soldier bill at all.



SHIFTING SANDS

There is growing evidence that the report of the Truman committee will have lasting effect in shaping certain governmental policies. There is now developing some organized resistance to "the Army mind" which, 3 or 4 wks ago appeared completely dominant. Significantly, this resistance is not wholly within business circles. WPB, for example, has formed advisory board which is virtually certain to urge increasing allotment of civilian goods. Conviction grows that Truman members talk sound sense, but don't expect complete or revolutionary turn. Net will be somewhat more civilian goods by summer or early fall. . . Some local commercial groups, seeking to forestall postwar stampede for federal handouts, are gathering data to show borrowing potentialities of local units. Idea is to demonstrate cities, townships, counties have bonding power to carry out public construction programs without resorting to Washington.



FOR THOSE WHO WILL NOT BE MENTALLY MAROONED

Quote

"HE WHO NEVER QUOTES, IS NEVER QUOTED"

Charles Haddon Spurgeon

"If black mkt gas could be eliminated, the A card ration of every one of us could be increased 25%."—CHESTER BOWLES, OPA administrator.

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"I hope to meet you young gentlemen soon east of the Rhine."—Gen DWIGHT D EISENHOWER, visiting a graduating class of Britain's "West Point".

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"Hitler is a child of nature who would be quite capable of frying a chop over a Stradivarius violin."—KONRAD HEIDEN, in his book, *Der Fuehrer*.

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"I believe we have killed 2000 Japs, which should be good news in any language except Japanese."—Lt-Gen JOS W STILLWELL, commenting on a current Burma operation.

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"Pres Roosevelt has authorized us . . . to say . . . he is happy that the doors of Palestine are today open to Jewish refugees and that when future decisions are reached full justice will be done those who seek a Jewish nat'l home."—DRS STEPHEN S WISE and ABBA H SILVER, co-chairmen American Zionist Emergency Council.

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"We must insure by every means at our disposal that the opportunity remains which will enable an equitable program to be developed. The doors of Palestine must be kept open for the present."—WENDELL WILLKIE, in a message to American Zionist Emergency Council.

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"We are just now approaching the crisis, and I can promise without revealing any military secrets that (recent) operations will seem small when offensives now being planned take place."—FRANK KNOX, sec'y of Navy.

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"I think we might well prepare ourselves for the most bitter assault ever made on an American president. And I am not unmindful of the assault made on Lincoln in 1864."—HENRY F SCHRICKER, gov of Indiana, addressing group of Democratic women.

"MAY WE

Quote

YOU ON THAT?"

"Nothing is so characteristic of a totalitarian state today as the uniting of the legislative and executive functions in one man, with control also over the judges. If one man can make the laws, execute the laws, and can judge the violation of the laws, liberty cannot long exist."—Sen ROB'T A TAFT, Ohio.

"I never talk to the President about those things. I don't think a man's family has any right to influence him in things like that . . . I have no idea whether the President will run for a 4th term, and I doubt very much that he knows."—ELEANOR ROOSEVELT, queried at San Juan, Puerto Rico.

"The best military judgment is that to end the war as speedily as possible this bombing (of German cities) is necessary."—Bishop G BROMLEY OXNAM, sec'y Bishops' Council of Methodist church, replying to a statement issued by 28 clergymen and writers, decrying Allied obliteration assaults.

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"The recent protest against our bombing of Germany from sources within our borders is a protest against our waging war in our own defense."—Undersec'y of War ROB'T P PATTERSON, commenting on recent plea signed by prominent ministers and laymen.

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"Such protests give aid and comfort to evil-doers . . . and tend to discredit religion by giving the impression that the pacifist position is the true Christian position."—WM T MANNING, bishop, N Y Protestant Episcopal diocese, commenting on plea noted above.

"Well, he conducts at Carnegie Hall!"—A pun-inspired jazz addict, striking back at Conductor Rodzinski for his strictures against the jazzists.

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"If each thinking person would make it a point to write one constructive letter a month to some important official in Washington, we'd have representative gov't."—FRANK H SPARKS, president, Wabash College.

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"You can't blueprint a war."—JOHN B BLANFORD, JR, NHA administrator, admitting serious occupancy problems in several federal housing projects, as result of shifts in war production plans.

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"The old rocking chair's got them."—EVERETT L GARDNER, director, Indiana Unemployment Compensation division, complaining that workers who have lost big-pay war jobs prefer to sit idly, drawing \$18 a wk compensation, rather than take other employment at lower pay.

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"The biggest elephant that has ever been in this country was just on 12,000 lbs. That will give you some idea of the size of the new RAF six-ton blockbuster."—LORD SHERWOOD, British Undersec'y of State for Air, addressing a luncheon in London.

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"Why am I not in Fla? If the ball players can't go there, neither can I."—Judge KENNESAW M LANDIS, 77-yr-old baseball commissioner. (Ill and fraill, "the Jedge", whose salary is \$75,000 a yr, has remained in Chicago thru the winter "on principle".)

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"Our Nazi enemies have set, in Rome, the most dangerous booby trap of history. If we spring this trap, so cunningly prepared by the arch-criminals of our time, we shall destroy not only the city of the Popes and the capital of Christendom . . . but we shall also destroy our prestige and thereby make a decent peace almost impossible."—Most Rev JOS P HURLEY, bishop of Catholic diocese of St Augustine, Fla.

"Now is the time . . . the people of Japan should stand up with resolute determination, glaring at the enemy."—RADIO TOKIO.

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"A planet is waiting for the United Nations to drop the other shoe."—JOHN TEMPLE GRAVES, II in *Birmingham Age-Herald*.

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"After 200 pictures, I began to feel there might be danger of my being typed."—DONALD MEEK, who, in 56 yrs of acting, has consistently lived up to his name. Now, in *Gold Town*, with brothers Wallace and Noah Beery, he plays unscrupulous, domineering executive—and likes it.

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"This is a question too difficult for a mathematician. It should be asked of a philosopher."—Prof ALBERT EINSTEIN, commenting on the maze of Income Tax interrogations.

"If anybody tries to insert me into one of those dismal numbers run up by the undertaker's dressmaking dep't, I'll come back and ha'nt 'em. Nor do I crave to make my mortal exit in a tailcoat with white tie and artificial pearl studs. I'll be done with after-dinner speaking forever, so why dispatch me hence in the regalia of the craft? When a man dies with his sins, let the sins die with the man."—IRVIN S COBB, in a letter directing funeral arrangements.

"I just completed mine by hand; but I'm not going to razz anybody who gets help."—Sen JOHN A DAN-AHER, Conn, mbr of taxwriting Senate Finance committee, when told that Prof. Einstein had termed the tax questionnaire "too difficult for a mathematician."

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"A rash of bills intended to penalize those who express opinions which may stir up racial or religious animosities suggests that the people who believe that brotherly love can be created by the fiat of the state and the club of the police are not all in the Gestapo or the Jap military services."—Editorial, *Christian Century*.

"Purgatory with palms."—Showmen's designation of Miami, due to hotel and restaurant troubles.

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"Don't make me look like a sea elephant swallowing a fish."—HELEN TRAUBEL, Metropolitan Opera star, to photographers posing an "action" shot.

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"I would leave the Germans only their eyes to cry."—ROB'T GOFFIN, Belgian author of *The White Brigade*, commenting on coming peace negotiations.

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"I leave for a couple of months and they change the whole form of song writing."—IRVING BERLIN, back from London, commenting on popularity of *Mairzy Doats*.

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"Yes, but they can't court-martial her."—Lt-Col JAMES ROOSEVELT, to newsmen in San Francisco, who complained of his taciturnity; commented that his mother was always a good news source.

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"I'll just hand it to St Peter and avoid filling out all kinds of entry forms and blanks."—HENDRIK WILLEM VAN LOON, commenting on his autobiography, *A Report to St Peter*, on which he was working at time of his death last wk.

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"Apparently the idea is to keep these young nonfathers in industry and put the older men, the fathers, into uniform."—Rep ANDREW J MAY, Ky, chairman, House Military Affairs committee, expressing dissatisfaction with Selective Service policies.

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"I am writing to call your attention to the fact that Stephen, Robert and David are also my sons, although you . . . completely omit this fact or state it incorrectly. It has been my joy to bring up my sons—to plan for their well-being and education, and I wish to be identified with them."—Mrs ETHEL GROSS HOPKINS, 1st wife of HARRY HOPKINS, whom she divorced in '30. (Hopkins has been married 3 times.)

"I am an ugly old man with beetle brows and a big bay window."—Self-description of IRVIN S COBB, humorist, who died last wk in N Y.

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"Even the election of a Republican president would be preferable to the destruction of our democracy. We might adopt the 1860 formula."—HARRY H WOODRING, chairman, American Democratic party. (The formula: Hold a convention below the Mason-Dixon line; nominate a southern Democrat for President.)

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"I have not the slightest doubt that if the battle front and the home front really get down to it this yr, we can get the thing almost finished—held so tightly that next yr we will just topple it over."—Gen Sir BERNARD L MONTGOMERY, commenting on war's duration.

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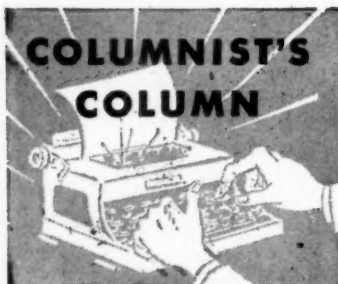
"Those guys back there are going to kill me for making them stand up in front of all this brass so long."—Sgt CHAS E KELLY, of Texas, 1st American soldier in Italy to be awarded Congressional Medal of Honor (for killing 40 Nazis.) Comment referred to comrades who stood at attention during ceremonies.



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The Negro Vote

FRANK R. KENT

The most interesting thing about the by-election in N Y city was the sharp shift of the heavy Negro vote in two Harlem wards. There isn't a practical politician in either party who missed the significance.

N Y Democratic leaders have warned Mr Roosevelt's political advisers that unless effective steps to stop the trend are taken the result might be loss of the State's electoral vote. They pointed out that these two wards which went 2 to 1 for the Republican candidate, voted 8 to 1 for Mr Roosevelt in '40. And they further expressed the conviction that this shift of the Negro vote is nat'l, not local.

The question is whether the undisputed tendency of the Negro to ret'n to his Republican "home" can be halted by Mr Roosevelt's candidacy. No understanding politician will minimize the importance of that question. In N Y there are approximately 250,000 Negro voters; in Pa even more. In N J, Md, Del, Mo, Ky, Ohio, Ind, Ill and Mich, the number of Negroes is sufficient to give them balance of power in any close election. There are, thus, eleven states where this is true and they are the indispensable states.

The Negro vote concerns itself little with anything except the attitude of parties and candidates toward its group. Negroes resent alleged segregation and discrimination in the armed forces. They have looked to Mr. Roosevelt to stop that and he has not done so. Another complaint is discrimination against Negroes by some labor unions and the railroads, which Mr Roosevelt has failed to combat. —Abridged from syndicated col, *The Great Game of Politics*.

AGRICULTURE—Definition

A farmer is a man who makes his money on the farm and spends it in town; an agriculturist is a man who makes his money in town and spends it on the farm.—*L & N Mag.*

The Washington Way

If the average citizen operated in the Washington Way, when in need of a suit of clothes he would seek three tailors, tell each of them to make one leg of the trousers; let each of them guess which leg he was working on; then appoint a fourth tailor to co-ordinate the trousers.—*WALTER LIPPMAN*, in his syndicated col.

BOOKS—Borrowing

"I get my books back now," says a friend of ours, "by writing the following on the flyleaf: 'I like you, so I loaned you this book. If you like me, you'll ret'n it.'"

COMPANIONSHIP—Limited

"When I was in Rome last month," Prince Stefano Borghese said, "they told me Mussolini is so disgusted he will talk only to his parrot. He and the parrot have long conversations, and neither of them ever says anything that offends the other."—*TOM TREANOR*, *Los Angeles Times*.

CYNICISM—in War

There's a story (doubtless apocryphal) going the rounds in Washington, to the effect that Pres Roosevelt and Prime Minister Churchill were feeling out Stalin on the question of inviting the Pope to participate in peace discussions. Stalin said nothing. Finally, the Pres asked Stalin how he felt about it. He replied: "How many divisions has the Pope?"

DEPORTMENT

"It's the good girls who get into trouble," a social worker said to me once. "The bad ones know how to avoid it."—*GLADYS DENNY SHULTZ*, "A Mother Answers A Morals S-O-S", *Better Homes & Gardens*, 3-44.

DEVOTION—to a Cause

Any individual is expendable, if, in the light of a Cause that is greater than himself, he knows that by saving himself he will endanger the cause.—*Lt L GERALD BURRUS*, "Christians Are Expendable", *Religious Telescope*, 3-4-'44.

DUTY—Devotion

The gentle Harry Truman, leader of the Truman Committee, has never become exalted with a big-shot complex. He still carries a note from his 92-yr-old mother, an avid reader of the *Congressional Record*. Noting her son's absence from the Senate floor while on committee work, she wrote:

"Harry, how do you expect to be a good Senator if you don't answer roll-call?"—*JOHN M CARLISLE*, *Detroit News*.

EDUCATION

PEDANT: a stupid man who has read a book.—*Counter Points*, hm, World Book Co.

EFFICIENCY EXPERT

The efficiency expert will tell you that if a farmer's boy can pick six qts of cherries in an hour, and a girl five qts, the two of them together will pick eleven qts. But any farmer knows that the two of them together won't pick any.—*Christian Observer*.

GOVERNMENT—Control

Don't expect food rationing and price control to come to a dead stop with the end of the war. Here is OPA's present timetable:

Clothing and "soft" goods: Price control should end within a few months after the armistice.

Food rationing and price control: To run until after the first harvest in Europe following Nazi surrender.

Durable goods rationing: To run somewhat longer until production gets into full swing, but under simpler price control.—*MARY HORNADAY*, "Prices and Your Purse", *The Christian Science Monitor*, 3-6-'44.

HEAVEN

If a person does not enjoy the worship and services of the Lord, he no doubt would be out of place in heaven.—*A G HOBBS, Jr.*, *Christian Worker*, 3-2-'44.

HOUSING—Shortage

Recently, two ensigns, desperate for living quarters, advertised in *The Villager*, a weekly covering Greenwich Village, for "two-bed hovel with semblance of furniture and bath".

They got results—a series of phone calls from real estate people. Nothing to offer, you understand; the dealers wanted the boys to give them tips, if they found anything.—*PM*.

INFLATION

"I think that my parents do not want to encourage inflation."—JOEL KUPFERMAN, Quiz Kid, discussing his allowance of 26c a wk. Quoted in *New Yorker*.

That Man!

For shame! Your Johnny lying in the Okla slush doing daylong rifle practice, and here's his little wife palpitating at the footstep of Another Man.

What's worse, the Menace is in uniform! You don't know his name, his age, his marital status or the color of his eyes. But you are definitely in his power.

The knave doesn't even pretend to confine his attentions to you alone. He's seen at Mrs. Brown's door twice a day, and they say that the little Perkins girl, whose sweetheart's in India, simply exists for his brief visits.

What's this man got that even Walter Pidgeon can't provide? He's got the United States Mail! —VIOLET MOORE, *Atlanta Journal*.

LANGUAGE—English

I sustained myself during the first yrs of war with a newspaper cutting I had found in the *Evening Standard*. It recalled a remark made by Bismarck. He was asked what was the most important fact in modern history, and answered: "The fact that North America speaks English." I put the cutting in my cigarette case, and I have read it every day.—HECTOR BOLITHO, "The Changing British Island", *American Magazine*, 2-'44.

LONELINESS—of Leaders

Have you thought how men have made loneliness serve them? Do

you think that Thos Edison liked to have a crowd of people around him constantly? Did Albert Einstein work out his theory of relativity in his study while his wife entertained the Linger-Longer Ladies club in an adjoining room?—*The Link*.

MARRIAGE

The bride tottered up the aisle on the arm of her father, who was wheeled in his armchair by three of his great-grandchildren. She was arrayed in white and carried a big bouquet of white rosebuds; her hair, though gray, was bobbed, and she smiled and nodded to acquaintances.

The groom was able to walk, aided by two handsome mahogany crutches. His head was bald, and his false teeth chattered a little nervously.

And so they were married—the couple who waited until they could afford to get married.

PRAYER—of Servicemen

Capt Harry T. Waskow, (the beloved officer whose death, in Italy, was memorialized by Ernie Pyle in a recent dispatch) left a will that was read at funeral services in Belton, Tex. It was full of his love for his family, his philosophy of life, and his love for his men.

"In your prayers," the Captain wrote, "remember also my men." —ALFRED MYNDERS, *Chattanooga (Tenn) Times*.

PROGRESS—of People

A people who are poor and moving forward are greater than a people who are rich and standing still. A people who are only partially free but see freedom looming ahead of them are greater than a people whose freedom is an achievement only of the past—who have freedom of speech without anything great to say, and freedom of thought without the daring to envisage a not impossible world.—MAX LERNER, "A Not Impossible World", *Mademoiselle*, 3-'44.

RATIONING

There are two ways in which a woman can increase her supply of food stamps—save fats or have a baby.—*Des Moines Register*.

Confidentially thru a Megaphone

Postal authorities who have done little more than frown at chain-letter nuisance, are getting ready to tromp with both feet on current version which combines prayer and superstition: "Lord, be merciful on us and our nation. This prayer must go all over the world. If it stops, great misfortune will come to you. As soon as you receive this prayer, send it to 13 persons and great happiness will enter your life. One lady made fun of this prayer and in 13 days she was blind." If you receive any form of chain letter, turn it in to your postmaster. Mails now too essential to permit chain letters.

Travelers stranded in FIs are being gyped by racketeers who advertise to take "four passengers" to eastern destination, collect fees up to \$50 and disappear.

Hollywood picture producers are tightening policy permitting stars to appear in radio shows; will release fewer movie scripts for radio adaptation. Move looks toward future television competition. . . Indications are, few if any exhibitors will absorb new increased admission tax. . . Democratic party will seek to offset unfriendly press by heavy use of radio; budget may touch \$1 million. . . In the Phil Baker movie *Take it or Leave it*, the \$64 question will be upped to \$640.00. It's the Hollywood way! . . . War dep't has not okayed filming of John Hersey's *A Bell for Adano*. (Probable reason: character of "Gen Marvin" is patterned too closely on Patton.)

Our fashion scout reports WAVES are wearing red petticoats, for color contrast. Some uniform-weary lassies now greet their dates in evening dress, changing to uniform if they "step out". SPARs, WAVES, Marines may wear wedding or bridesmaid's gowns with permission of CO. WACs may not.



ARMY: Army Medical dep't has devised super Red Cross canvas marker for station and gen'l hospitals in combat zone. Size 100x100 ft, marker may be recognized at height of 25,000 ft. (*Army-Navy Jnl.*)

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AUTOMOBILE: Dr Orestes Caldwell, editor *Electronic Industries*, had fun last wk with N Y Electrical Society, poking into possibilities for electronic attachments for autos. He forecast: miniature newspapers printed in car by facsimile radio; newsreel scenes del'd by television; photocells will report your speed to police; radio cars will give road instructions by wireless; red and green lights on your dashboard will be your traffic signals; at darkness, electric eyes will automatically turn on carlights.

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AVIATION: Fantastic combination of family flivver and private plane may not be as distant as some imagine. Vincent Bendix is experimenting with revolutionary type helicopter to carry 4 passengers in closed cabin; with tricycle landing-gear it may be driven on highway.

British have a new liquid-cooled airplane engine—the Griffon (mythological winged lion) produced by Rolls Royce, said to excel Merlin.

Air Service Command has perfected new ink for printing pilot's check list, equally visible in darkness or under bright Pacific sun. (List contains number of items to be checked by pilot as safety factor.)

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MEDICINE: Soviet scientist has discovered serum that may ultimately double human life span, prevent premature old age. If we think grandmother young at 50, we may live to be young at 100. (*Mademoiselle.*)

RECREATION—Need

There is need for a recreation middle ground between dives and divinity.—THOMAS A BARNES, (chairman, Norfolk, Va Recreation Commission) *Recreation*, 2-44.

ROMANCE vs Reality

Some day (in a radio serial) a rich, handsome, strong-minded young man who left Yale in his junior yr to start working up from the bottom in his father's glue factory, is going to stumble upon a beautiful, brave girl from the wrong side of the tracks—and just leave her there.—HARRIETT VAN HORNE, "It is Later Than Radio Thinks", *Sat Rev of Lit*, 2-19-44.

SERVICE—Unselfish

In the days of Booker T Washington, an old Negro woman sold peanuts at the entrance to Tuskegee Institute grounds. One day she was asked:

"Wouldn't Dr Washington have been a rich man if he had got all this money for himself?"

"Law, no, child," was the prompt reply. "He wouldn' even o' been worth a nickel."

She may have been right at that. He who falls when using his ability in self-seeking might—yes, should—succeed in a work of helpful service to those who need him.—C E FLYNN, "True Values", *Good Business*, 2-44.

TAXES

One of our correspondents, confused by tax regulations, but eager to do the right thing, asks if, under the head of "Dividends", he should include those of the Book-of-The-Month Club.

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"Research in recent times has shown the typical American head tends to grow longer." It is as well. Otherwise, the taxpayer's face would not fit.—*Milwaukee Jnl.*

" "

Why should WPB shorten men's shirts when the tax collector will eventually take the whole thing?—*Alexander Animator*, hm Alexander Film Co.

TERMS

John Hill, N. Y public relations counsel, believes business needs some new labels. "Free enterprise"

is one of the terms he thinks we should change. It has too often been interpreted as freedom to break laws, to stifle competition, to oppress the worker and to go about its affairs free from ordinary restraints of the average citizen. As a substitute, "American enterprise" is suggested. Mr Hill also suggests "earnings" instead of "profits" and "income to be reinvested" instead of "surplus".—*Hoover Sphere*, hm, Hoover Ball Bearing Co.

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One of the troubles with the phrase "free enterprise" is that few people agree on what it means. The shark grunts while swallowing the minnows, and the minnows die with "free enterprise" in their prayers. When we hear people complaining about the government destroying the free enterprise system, we must learn to distinguish between the screams of the resentful shark who sees his predatory instincts curbed, and the legitimate fears of those who may feel that government is trying to enter the game itself instead of acting as umpire.—*CARELTON PUTNAM*, president Chicago & Southern Air Lines.

TRAINING—Juvenile

What forces influence child life in America? A recent Hartshorne-May rep't: "Influence of parents, 45%; the group, 35%; leader of the gang, 13.7%; teacher of the school, 6%; Bible school teacher, 3 of 1%."

VANITY

An enterprising Brooklyn man employs searchers to read and clip all N Y and suburban papers. They cut out personal items that are flattering to the individuals named. A gov't penny postal is then mailed each person so mentioned: "Your name appears, favorably, in a current newspaper article (*Bushwick Bugle*, Feb 24, '44). Mail this card with \$1 and you will receive this newspaper clipping, mounted on an appropriate pen-and-ink sketch, worth framing." Thousands respond.—*CHAS B DRISCOLL*, N Y *Day by Day*.

VICE

What often prevents us from being the slave of a single vice is that we have a number of vices.—*Liberation*.

Der Fuehrer

Next to his own atrociously-written *Mein Kampf*, probably the most revealing portrait of Hitler is the new biography, *Der Fuehrer* (Houghton, Mifflin, \$3.) by KONRAD HEIDEN, a recent Book-of-The-Month selection. The author of *A History of Nat'l Socialism* first encountered the German leader 24 yrs ago; had unusual opportunities to study him thru the formative period of the Nazi party. A German by birth, Heiden was a member of a group of young intellectuals in Munich in the early 1920's. The author is one of that distinguished group of refugees who took haven in the U S in the early days of the war. He gives us here a glimpse of Hitler's relations with his associates:

Hitler made the masses see what they did not see, and not to see what they did see. The masses, yes—but what about individuals, particularly those around him? They were forced to hear this know-it-all, equipped with all the semi-education of his age, talking constantly of things he did not understand; they had to swallow the miserable German, the defective logic, the tasteless humor and false pathos. . . By what human means did Hitler handle the men around him?

The answer is that he did not handle them successfully. These men never ceased to laugh at him or to become enraged against him. He was not on terms of true friendship with any, even Hess. No one addressed him by his first name. The phenomenon's name is "*Mein Fuehrer*"—to one and all.

What got on the nerves of his co-workers perhaps even more than his alternate whining and brutality was his indecision. Yet, tongue in cheek, they systematically built up the myth of *Der Fuehrer's* determination.

These subordinates were aware that above all they were participants in a wild venture, the maddest speculation of history, which was bound to pay off prodigiously if successful. Realists, thugs and businessmen, they had known Hitler intimately for yrs, and no one could pass off any forged gigantic portrait on them. They saw his weakness, nearly all of which could be reduced to a phenomenal untruthfulness, which all his collaborators complained of. For most of his faults, otherwise humanly understandable, became ugly only because he falsified them into virtues. His big lies constitute the content of his book; but he deceived his co-

Der Barbarisch

Hitler's is a barbarian soul, without bond or loyalty, burdened with no intellectual possessions. What always surprised men who spoke with Hitler face to face was the poverty of his arguments and explanations. He was always conspicuous for his hostility to hard facts, his fear of checkable details.

Hitler's indifference to facts explains his strange relation to books. He does not allow them to instruct him, but only to confirm his opinions. He virtually never quotes a single word from a classic author.

workers even in small personal matters. In '26, with tears in his eyes, he assured a journalist to whom he owed money that he had no funds at all, not even for his most urgent needs; the next day he started on a pleasure trip to Bayreuth in an automobile.

To the outside world it was staunchly maintained that Hitler was always the best friend and comrade of his co-workers—it was one of the lies which Hitler's staff had come to take for granted. The remarkable part of it was the pathos with which he lied; whenever possible, he attached an oath or at least a word of honor to the lie. With trembling passion in his voice, he swore in court that he had never made an attempt to obtain money from Henry Ford. The man who could have had him sent to prison for perjury by producing a document, and might thus have spared the world its encounter with Hitler, unfortunately kept silent.



GEMS FROM

Yesteryear

The Three Selves

IRVIN S COBB

This bit is from Mr Cobb's autobiography, *Exit Laughing* (Bobbs, Merrill '41) The great humorist, native of Puducan, Ky, died at his home in N Y last wk, in his 67th yr.

They say every human being who writes an autobiography exposes himself, no matter how craftily he tries to make out a good case. But which one of his selves does he expose?

By my own way of figuring, there is in each of us three separate and distinct selves. There's the first self. That's the self that really is our own self, with the faults which we strive to conceal, with the naked shortcomings which we cannot conceal; with all our twisted bad thoughts, our secret skewed inhibitions of which, in self-analyzing moments, we privately are ashamed but which perversely we cherish and nourish all the same.

Second, there's the self which each one fondly hopes the world may be cajoled into believing is he, accepting his stubbornness for resolution, his greediness for commendable thrift, his selfishness for proper self-protection of his earthly interests, his rudeness for rugged individualism, his egotism for a seemingly appraisal of true worth.

Third, and last, there's the self which discriminating mankind discerns, giving me the benefit of a doubt here, reading thru my pretensions there: balancing off what is palpably artificial against what these judges decide may be wholesomely natural. This is a composite self put together by my shrewder neighbors, my kindlier friends, and my critical enemies.

An English drill sergeant, whose extreme severity had not exactly endeared him to his men, was putting a squad of rookies thru the funeral exercise.

Opening ranks, so as to admit the passage of the cortege between them, the sergeant walked down the lane thus formed, saying as he did: "Now I am the honored dead. See that you do the proper thing. Attention!"

At the end of the lane he turned around, scrutinized the squad with a practiced eye, and then remarked, "Your 'ands is right and your 'eads is right, but you 'aven't got that look of regret you ought to 'ave."—*Capper's Wkly.*

" "

They are still laughing in Chicago judicial circles over the Italian street-peddler who applied for citizenship papers.

Asked by an examining judge how many states there are in the Union, the push-cart operator pondered deeply, and then, his countenance brightening, asked if he might put a query to the Court.

"Mr Judge," he said, bowing respectfully. "You knowa your business. I knowa my business. You ask me how many states is it in a Union. I ask you, How many bananas in a bunch?"

" "

Oliver was careless about his personal effects. When his mother saw clothing scattered about on the chair and floor, she inquired, "Who didn't hang up his clothes when he went to bed?" A muffled voice replied: "Adam."—*Nuggets.*

" "

Arthur Murray tells of a woman at an amusement park who gave her small son a dollar and, before turning him loose to his own devices, asked what he intended to do with it.

The lad announced his budget of saltwater taffy, ice cream cones, hot dogs, cotton candy and popcorn.

"Anything else?" asked the mother sarcastically.

The well-trained young man, recalling sundry dietary lessons, gulped a couple of times and added, "Yes, mama; a green vegetable!"—*JIMMIE FIDLER, syndicated col.*

GOOD STORIES YOU CAN USE

I LAUGHED AT THIS ONE

SONJA HENIE

During one of my exhibition tours I was so lacking in energy and generally "run down" that in one of the cities on our route, I called upon a physician. After a brief discussion of symptoms, he frowned importantly, and in the manner of an oracle, declared: "Young lady, you should get more exercise."

I came away so amused that I at once felt much better.

Back in those halcyon days when the outcome of football games really mattered, an unhappy little group boarded the special out of Princeton late one Saturday afternoon.

"Poorest game I ever saw," they assured each other sadly, and dull silence settled upon them until the conductor showed up.

One of the victims of boredom fumbled in his pockets for a minute, then shot to his feet. "Great Scott," he shouted.

"What's the matter," someone asked. "Lose your watch?"

"No," gulped the fan. "I've left my wife asleep in the grandstand and she's got my ret'n ticket!"—*Tracks, hm, C&O Ry.*

" "

Some hundred men were hard at work on the excavation for a new munition factory. It was a rush job and the foreman rarely let them forget it. When all was in readiness to lay the foundation, a man clad in overalls with a ladder on his shoulder stopped for a moment to watch the proceedings. The foreman saw him and roared out to his men, "Now then, lads, get a move on! Don't keep the window washer waiting!"—*Home Life.*

"You," said the persistent and rather unattractive widower, "are the sixth girl to whom I have proposed without avail."

"Well," said the young lady helpfully, "maybe you will have better luck if you wear one when you make your seventh try."

WISECRACKS of the Week

Hitler is reported to have ordered a number of his high German officers shot. One way of saving Russian ammunition.—*N Y World-Telegram.*

" "

Speaking of the first breath of spring—more and more people will be raising their own green onions this yr.—*Capper's Wkly.*

" "

Old-Timer: one who can remember when a college band had more musicians than drum majors.—*Louisville Courier-Jnl.*

" "

Many a young married man has found that the upkeep is his downfall.

Friend of ours, who has had the same Negro cook for 20 yrs, is given to bragging on the culinary skill of her treasure. But recently, at company dinner, the biscuits were a flat failure.

The embarrassed hostess apologized profusely. Later, she took the cook to task.

"Well, ma'am," Mandy replied, "I sho' is regretful, but 'pears lak it couldn' be he'ped. Dem biscuits squatted t' rise, but dey got cooked in de squat."—*Milwaukee Jnl.*

